

AGENDA



Thursday, May 27, 2010

**Health and Human Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 28

Subject: Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$206,401 in additional grant funds from the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES, WIC PROGRAM, and amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20090914-002 to appropriate \$206,401 for staffing, infrastructure improvements, an increase to indirect cost support, and adding three full-time equivalent positions.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the Texas Department of State Health Services, WIC Program. The grant period is October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. No City match is required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Shannon Jones, Assistant Director, 972-5410; Donna Sundstrom, Manager, 972-6844; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

Prior Council Action: Approved Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Budget Amendment in Ordinance No. 20100325-024, increasing grant award, March 25, 2010.

The Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is a preventive program that targets women and children below 185% of federal poverty level. The WIC Program provides nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and nutritious foods to pregnant women, infants, and children up to age five.

The Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) WIC Program requests additional staffing to address growth in program participation. The additional funding for these expenses from the Texas Department of State Health Services is a result of greater participation combined with a reimbursement increase from \$11.53 to \$11.79 per participant. Program participation has increased 16.4% this last fiscal year and over 19.3% in the last two fiscal years and is expected to continue to expand. This increase equates to over 60,000 additional benefits issued in the clinic each year. This growth has had an impact on services.

The additional funding will be used for staffing and building improvements to accommodate the increased participation.

The additional staff requested--one Nutritionist, one Administrative Assistant, and one Breastfeeding Peer Counselor-- are critical to maintaining services at a high level and continuing to meet the demand for services in our community.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute to the funding of these positions. When the grant funds expire, the HHSD's need for the positions will be evaluated and the positions may be eliminated.

PERFORMANCE
HHSD Related Department Goal: Reduce the racial and ethnic infant mortality rates by 10 percent by 2012.

The impact of this action on performance measures includes an increase in the number of WIC clients from 438,000 to 440,000.